

# Agrinatura General Assembly 2024, Practical Guide: Navigating Helsinki

## **Accommodation:**

Helsinki offers a variety of hotels and accommodations tailored to your preferences. Previously, we suggested Unihome Töölö Towers Hotel, located in the city centre at Pohjoinen Hesperiankatu 23A, 00260 Helsinki, as one of the top choices for your stay.

Contact:

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+358 (0)2941 24555

Reservations open on weekdays 9.00-16.30.

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## **Arrival:**

Helsinki, the capital of Finland, is renowned for its rich culture, thriving business environment, diversity, and welcoming atmosphere. Upon your arrival, you will land at Helsinki-Vantaa Airport.

Situated 20 km from Helsinki City Centre, Helsinki Airport is conveniently accessible by car or train, with a travel time of approximately 30 minutes in either direction. For further details, [click here](#).

## **Trains:**

Helsinki Airport's train station is conveniently situated beneath the terminal building, with direct elevator and escalator access from the departures and arrivals hall.

Local I and P trains operate to and from Helsinki Airport, offering easy connectivity to the city. Train tickets can be purchased through the HSL app or from ticket machines at the train platform. For train timetables, tickets, and fares, please visit [HSL.fi](https://www.hsl.fi).

The most convenient route from the airport to the city centre is via the I-train, which departs from the terminal building and travels to the Central

Railway Station (Helsingin Päärautatieasema). From there, Töölö Towers is merely 1.8 km away. Currency exchange services are available at the airport if required.

### **Taxis:**

Upon exiting the airport, you'll find the taxi station conveniently located outside the "Arrivals Hall."

The taxi area comprises four lanes, allowing passengers to choose their preferred taxi company. It's essential to inquire about the pricing structure of the chosen company, as rates may vary significantly (e.g., fixed-rate or mileage). The first three lanes are reserved for companies that have partnered with the airport company Finavia, while other taxi providers operate from lane four.

### **Buses:**

Also located outside the arrival halls are buses. Bus route 600 operates between Helsinki Airport and Helsinki City Centre. The travel time is about 40 minutes. Tickets can be purchased online on HSL's mobile app, or at the bus station's ticket machine.

Please note that public transport prices (buses and trams) are generally about 9€ for a day and 18€ for 3 days. Also, if there are other services, you may require at the airport you can find them [HERE](https://www.hsl.fi/en) (<https://www.hsl.fi/en>)

### **Public Transport in Helsinki:**

Helsinki's public transport network is extensive, covering four zones: A-D. For travel within the city centre, zones A and B suffice. Daily tickets are available for purchase, typically priced at €9 for a single day and €18 for three days. These tickets grant access to local buses, trams, metro, and trains, making them a convenient option for exploring the city. Route information can be accessed through HSL services. Alternatively, physical tickets can be purchased at any R-Kiosk point of sale, whether at the airport, in the city centre, or elsewhere in Helsinki. Use Google Maps to locate the nearest R-Kiosk to you.

### **Getting to the University of Helsinki City Centre Campus**

The City Centre Campus spans a significant area right in the heart of Helsinki. While most university buildings are conveniently located near Fabianinkatu and Unioninkatu, some may be slightly farther away. It's

advisable to double-check your address before selecting your mode of transportation.

To plan your route within the capital region, you can use the HSL Route Planner or rely on Google Maps for navigation. Below are the links to the HSL route planner, UH campus map, and a map of Helsinki, all sourced from the University of Helsinki's official website.

HSL Route Planner (<https://www.hsl.fi/en/hsl/journey-planner>)

For example, with the HSL route planner, you can easily identify the most convenient transportation options available, along with the schedules for buses and trams.

## **Other Logistics**

**Safety:** Finland is generally considered safe, with no significant safety concerns. However, exercise caution when walking near the Central Railway Station at nighttime. Finland boasts the cleanest tap water globally, surpassing even bottled water in purity. In case of **emergencies, dial 112**. It's advisable to keep copies of important documents, such as passports, separate from the originals.

**Currency:** The local currency in Finland is the Euro. Major credit cards like VISA and Mastercard are widely accepted in most formal establishments.

**Time:** Helsinki follows East European Summer Time (UTC+3). For the time difference between Finland and your country, refer to this link.

**Electric Plugs:** Finland uses type C and F plugs.

**Leisure Activities:** To ensure an enjoyable stay, explore "MY HELSINKI" for various interesting places and engaging activities to try.

**Weather:** it seems we will have nice spring weather, temperatures between 10-15 °C. A weather forecast:

<https://en.ilmatieteenlaitos.fi/local-weather/helsinki>

**Transportation from Töölö Towers Hotel to the university premises on the 14th.**

Our kind hosting team have organised that Tanjib Hasan will be available to escort participants from the Töölö Towers Hotel to independently purchase a 2–3-day public transport ticket from HSL. Additionally, he will accompany participants via tram to the university premises on the 14th. Tanjib could be available at the hotel, at 8:00 AM so, I suggest keeping an eye on your email for more details in the coming days.

Last but certainly not least, please **remember to bring along the roll-up** from your institution, university, or organisation. These will be displayed at the venue and offer a fantastic opportunity to showcase the interesting activities your organisation is engaged in.